

Abstract of The Disclosure

A process producing multi-layer coatings in light metallic color shades, comprising the successive steps:

- (1) applying a 5 to 20 μm thick base coat layer to a pre-coated substrate,
- (2) applying a clear coat layer onto the base coat layer,
- (3) jointly curing the base coat and clear coat layers,

wherein the base coat layer is applied from an unmodified water-borne metallic base coat having a ratio by weight of pigment to resin solids of 0.3:1 to 0.45:1, wherein the pigment content consists 60 to 100% by weight of at least one non-leafing aluminum pigment with a platelet thickness over 100 to 500 nm and 0 to 40% by weight of at least one pigment different from aluminum pigments, wherein the pigment(s) different from aluminum pigments are selected in such a way that the multi-layer coating obtained exhibits a brightness L^* (according to CIEL*a*b*, DIN 6174), of at least 80 units.